

SECURITY INFORMATION

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File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst
See below	See below	1944	C D
Subject: Joseph DARNAND			Date 17 Dec 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

The following information on Subject, Joseph DARNAND, is taken from Gravediggers of France by André Géraud PERTINAX, (pseud), Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., New York, 1944, obtained through the CIA library, Branch One.

p. 564, footnote 12.

Laval's labor policy, including conscripted labor, accounts for brilliant results which mere administrative pressure could not have produced. "The whole system was screwed up with the appointment of Joseph DARNAND as 'Secretary to the maintenance of order' (December 31, 1943). On the one hand the Nazi and the reorganized French Gestapo tried hard to exterminate all defaulters, partisans, guerillas. On the other hand, a form of national service was enacted. In March 1944, if records stolen from Vichy can be trusted, 3,300,000 Frenchmen were detained in Germany: 1,250,000 prisoners of war, 1,000,000 or more conscripted labor, 300,000 political deportees. Jews, Alsations, and inhabitants of the northern departments made up the balance."

p. 565

"Laval's government, his own government after all, has been turned into a factional government, a gangsters government, supported by the bands of DARNAND, Doriot, etc. No word of disavowal on his part has been reported by any foreign ambassador. On December 31, 1943, Joseph DARNAND became the French equivalent of Himmler, the head of the French Gestapo equipped with the same weapons as the German Gestapo. Repressive action under all its forms and the food rationing were entrusted to him. - a sinister combination of duties. Today some fifty thousand desperadoes are being embrigaded by DARNAND, and they will be called upon, in the forthcoming crisis, to rescue what will remain of the National Revolution and its personnel. Did Petain even notice it? "

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT
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